

THE CLAIMS DEFINING THE INVENTION ARE AS FOLLOWS:-

1. An executive information requirements specification system for utilisation in conjunction with the Business Intelligence operations of an organisation, said system  
5 including:

at least one of four interactive modules that control the desirable path for interviewing an executive to determine a BI system specification , each of said modules storing information relevant to a project or an organisation, the modules including:

(a) a first module eliciting and storing information requirements related to the  
10 operational status of the organisation;

(b) a second module eliciting and storing information requirements about the relevant acceptability of the operational status of the organisation;

(c) a third module eliciting and storing information requirements derived from forecasting and exception analysis models of the organisation; and

15 (d) a fourth module eliciting and storing information and model requirements likely to be required should a problem be identified with the organisation.

2. A system as claimed in claim 1 wherein each of said modules includes a number of sub-modules eliciting and storing information relevant to the module for interaction with or by a user including information quantifying the value of specified requirements to the  
20 executive and the adequacy of current implementations of the requirements in a BI system (if any).

3. A system as claimed in claim 2 wherein said first module includes a series of submodules directed to at least one of the project or organisation key performance indicators and customer feedback.
4. A system as claimed in claim 2 wherein said second module includes a series of submodules directed to at least one of many possible benchmarks that the organisation has sought to achieve, relative performance measurements, exceptional situations and market feedback.
5. A system as claimed in claim 2 wherein said third module includes a series of submodules directed to significant changes in at least one of trends established in operational key time series, forecasting model results, and verbal reports of unexpected events in the marketplace.
6. A system as claimed in claim 2 wherein said fourth module includes a series of submodules directed to at least one of tools allowing for fast diagnosis of problems and to ensuring data availability for answering anticipated questions.
7. A system as claimed in claim 1 wherein said system is implemented via an internet browser environment or via one, or a network of, personal computers
8. A method of eliciting and specifying executive information requirements in a useable form, the method comprising the step of providing an interactive computer based system including a series of interactive modules , the modules including:
  - (a) a first module eliciting and storing information requirements related to the operational status of an organisation;

(b) a second module eliciting and storing information requirements about the relevant acceptability of the operational status of the organisation;

(c) a third module eliciting and storing information requirements derived from forecasting and exception analysis models of the organisation; and

5        (d) a fourth module eliciting and storing information and model requirements likely to be required should a problem be identified with the organisation.

9.     A method as claimed in claim 8 further comprising the reporting the results of interviews utilising at least one of the modules, the reports including at least one of:

a) information obtained in an interview highlighting the important measures required  
10    from a BI system by the interviewee;

b) a set of aggregated information resulting from two or more interviews utilising at least one of the four modules, providing averages and other indications of the range of measures selected, the value of measures and the adequacy of current implementations;

c) measures of significance to a user and the adequacy of current implementations,  
15    thereby assisting the process of auditing the quality of existing BI systems

d) graphical displays of the relationships between various measures elicited from the models.